

**BOARD of SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
September 8, 2016 at 8:15pm
TOWN HALL COMMISSION ROOM**

Draft Minutes

Present: Acting First Selectman Dennis Tracey, Selectman Chris Spaulding, Weston Residents

This meeting was videotaped. The tapes are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.

Mr. Tracey called the meeting to order at: 7:45pm

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Dennis Tracey

Executive Session to discuss Town Administrator Position (Motion by Mr. Spaulding; Seconded by Mr. Tracey; passed)

No votes taken.

Meeting called back into Public Session at 8:15pm

Discussion/decision regarding appointment of Town Assessor for a four year term – Dan Thomas. Mr. Tracey said our Town Assessor is planning on retiring, last day being October 7th. Mr. Thomas has been discussing this position for a while. Mr. Thomas spoke about his background (currently works for the Town of Milford) and his interest in the position.

Presentation on Lachat Town Farm (Carol Baldwin and Ellen McCormick)

Ellen McCormick presented. She first gave some background on what Lachat has accomplished so far this year. They have added 4 beds to their community garden, have been offering at least 2 classes a month as well as music events. Going forward, many new classes and music events will be added as well as future fundraisers. Regarding the house: the porch is just about finished, a sewer pipe had to be repaired, heat is done. The Children's Garden is still in the designing/planning stage.

Discussion/decision on Barter Arrangement with Lachat Town Farm Caretaker

Ms. McCormick presented a budget to bring on an on-site caretaker and a program director. The onsite caretaker would have an arrangement where he/she would work in exchange for housing in second floor of the house. The program manager would be a separate position. Their goal is to make this happen by November. Mr. Tracey asked Ms. McCormick to draw up an MOU between Lachat and the Town of Weston.

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Discussion/decision on expansion of Lachat Town Farm Commission - Ms.

McCormick requested an addition of 4 more members to the LTFC. The commission is in need of more helping hands. Mr. Tracey made a motion to approve the expansion of the Lachat Town Farm Commission from 9 to 13 members. Mr. Spaulding seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Update on Police Department Facility Study Mr. Spaulding reviewed the process – the police commission recently had a meeting to review a potential regionalized dispatch center. Mr. Brian Humes drew up a formal design – and will be reviewed. If the state ends up pushing regionalization, we would be the host location. In this plan there would also be space that could be utilized by EMS in the future. (On the 2nd floor above the dispatch center) (Attach a copy of the plan) It would be revenue generating. The stations would be set up, but the computers wouldn't be added until the regionalization actually happens.

Discussion/decision to approve Property Tax Refunds for a total amount of \$12,779.56 (refund log attached) Mr. Spaulding made a motion to approve Property Tax Refunds (list attached) in the amount of \$12,779.56. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Acting First Selectman's Update:

- 1- Dog Park: BOS authorized a survey to be done. Should be completed next week. Once reviewed a topographical map will be produced. An MOU would be drawn up as well.
- 2- Norfield Tree: Bill Lomas (tree warden) has been busy gathering information about its health, traffic issues, engaged arborists, met with the police commission to discuss traffic issues, and he has taken steps to secure the tree temporarily with cabling. Talked with the bus company. Decision is expected to be made in September. The tree would be posted if he decided it needs to come down - then the public would have 10 days to appeal and then entitled to a town meeting. Police Commissioner Bill Brady mentioned that they met and all agreed the tree should come down. Chief Troxell will write a statement.
Margaret Wirtenberg mentioned that she videotaped the public hearing back in 1998 regarding the Norfield Tree. Mr. Tracey stated that he would have that posted on our website.
- 3- Strategic Planning Commission update – they are going into Phase 2 - Based on recommendations of each sub-committee, the Committee will be focusing on 6-8 strategic initiatives to get the town ready for the next 10-20 years. For example, sidewalks, amenities and transportation.

Commissioner Brady brought up the Weston Rd. street crossing at Town Center – the bushes were trimmed, but they need to be cut back more. It is still dangerous. It was agreed that Mr. Conte will meet with Mr. Lametta about cutting back the bushes.

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Adjourn: Mr. Tracey made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned: 9:20pm

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